

Message Text

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14

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 EB-11 IGA-02 AGR-20 L-03 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 DODE-00 OMB-01

RSR-01 /119 W

----- 078090

R 301416 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7888

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, IS

SUBJ: PL-480 TITLE I SHIPPING REQUIREMENTS FOR FY-74.

REF: (A) AIDTO CIR A-269, (B) TEL AVIV A-90, (C) TEL AVIV 493,
(D) TEL AVIV 830.

1. OUR ESTIMATES OF WHEAT AND FEED GRAIN SHIPPING REQUIREMENTS FOR FY-74 IN REF. (B) ARE BASED ON DISCUSSIONS WITH IMPORT DIVISION OF MINISTRY COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND THEIR STATEMENT THAT TITLE I GOAL FOR WHEAT IS 250,000 METRIC TONS AND FOR FEED GRAINS 700,000 METRIC TONS. WE BELIEVE OUR PROJECTIONS OF OVER-ALL NEED IN S&D TABLES ARE REASONABLE. ALTHOUGH SOUTHERN WHEAT PRODUCTION AREA MAY HAVE REASONABLY GOOD CROP THIS SUMMER, LACK OF RAIN IN NORTHERN AREA WHICH PRODUCES MOST OF ISRAEL'S WHEAT WILL RESULT IN ONLY FAIR CROP. MINISTRY AGRICULTURE PLANS FURTHER INCREASES IN BROILER AND TURKEY MEAT PRODUCTION AND EVERY EFFORT BEING MADE TO INCREASE MILK PRODUCTION. ALTHOUGH RECENT OUT-BREAK NEWCASTLE DISEASE HAS CAUSED SOME POULTRY LOSSES, WE BELIEVE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES ARE OVERCOMING THE PROBLEM AND THERE IS NO INDICATION AT THIS TIME IT WILL INTERFERE WITH PLANNED INCREASES IN 1974.

2. AS INDICATED IN REF (B), WE HAVE NO DATA IN EMBASSY TO COMPUTE DOLLAR COST FY-73 PL-480 SHIPMENTS TO ISRAEL. WE ASSUME OUR QUANTITY PROJECTIONS HOWEVER WOULD CALL FOR A LARGER DOLLAR

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AMOUNT IN FY-74. IF WORLD WIDE PL-480 FUNDS ARE SHORT OR WASHINGTON AGENCIES SEEKING WAYS TO REDUCE OVER- ALL ISRAELI AID LEVELS, WE SUGGEST NEGOTIATING FOR INCREASE IN LEVEL USUAL MARKETING REQUIREMENTS FOR FEED GRAINS AND/ OR WHEAT. IF INCREASE IN UMRS NOT FEASIBLE, GOI WOULD GAVE TO MAKE ADDITPONAL COMMERCIAL PURCHASES OVER AND ABOVE UMR LEVEL AND/ OR ACCELERATE THEIR PURCHASES OF FY-74 USUAL MARKETING REQUIREMENTS THAT IS, IN PERIOD JANUARY-JUNE 1974.

3. AS EMBASSY' S REPORTING HAS NOTED (REFS (C) AND (D) ISRAEL' S FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVE POSITION IS GOOD AND IS LIKELY TO IMPROVE DESPITE MOUNTING INFLATION. FROM POINT OF VIEW OF REAL ECONOMIC NEED, THERE IS LITTLE REASON ISRAEL COULD NOT AGREE TO FY-1974 TITLE I LEVELS BELOW THOSE IN CURRENT YEAR' S AGREEMENT, WHICH WOULD INVOLVE CONSIDERABLE COMMERCIAL PURCHASES OUT OF RESERVES. HOWEVER, INCRASED COSTS OF FOREIGN FOOD AND FEED ARE PARTICULAR SUBJECT OF COMPLAINTS HERE RECENTLY AND THERE WOULD CERTAINLY BE LOUD PROTESTS OVER HARDENING GF PL-480 TERMS.
DECON 4/1/74.
ZURHELLEN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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